



Your Comprehensive Planning Efforts and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation

As your community begins developing your comprehensive plan *either with or without the financial assistance of state planning grant funds*, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) would like to offer its assistance.

Your plan's transportation element is linked with virtually all the other comprehensive plan elements. It is a critical part of envisioning and implementing your community's goals for the next 20 years.

WisDOT Transportation District staff are available to assist your community in the development of the transportation element of a comprehensive plan in many ways, including:

Plan Data and Information

- WisDOT has a number of transportation data and information resources useful for your community's inventory and analysis process, such as traffic data, highway functional classifications and transportation maps. This can reduce the time and cost of data gathering.
- WisDOT District staff can help to identify regional datasets that will enhance your community's effort.
- Staff can assist your community in determining how to "*incorporate*" these plans into your community's comprehensive plan. This will help in fulfilling the statutory requirements of the transportation element.

State and Local Transportation Issues

- WisDOT District staff can identify planned state transportation projects that affect your community and impact your planning process.
- Your community will be able to share its own vision and local transportation plans with WisDOT. This coordination will help to both improve your comprehensive plan and foster long-term cooperation between your community and WisDOT.

State Planning Grants

- Discussing your community's transportation issues and coordinating with WisDOT staff will help your community to better address grant application questions relating to transportation.
- If you have received a state grant, WisDOT staff can assist you in the requirements of the grant including coordinating with a Metropolitan Planning Organization, where applicable.

Many communities, planners and consultants are currently working with WisDOT. District staff can be involved in your planning process in a number of ways. Some of these include participating on a technical committee, meeting with your community and/or consultant to discuss transportation issues and reviewing your community's draft transportation element.

WisDOT urges you to coordinate with us as early as possible in your planning process. This will help to ensure your community's goals and plan are coordinated with WisDOT and the various transportation plans affecting your community.

WisDOT staff contacts are listed at the end of this brochure. Please call or email WisDOT District staff in your area to begin working together in this process to achieve mutual transportation goals.

For additional comprehensive planning information, contact information, and additional resources, please visit the [WisDOT's Transportation and Land Use Website](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/land/index.htm).

(URL address: <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/land/index.htm>)

Development of the Transportation Element of a Comprehensive Plan

Each Wisconsin community will have specific, distinct circumstances and issues it will address in its comprehensive planning process. Transportation issues thread throughout a plan from economic development to land use to plan implementation. For example, selecting a location for a new industrial park can be a significant factor in the transportation element.

Statutory requirements for the transportation element are found in section 66.1001(2)(c) of Wisconsin State Statutes. The following questions are intended to provide guidance of transportation issues that should be considered in the development your transportation element. For more additional information on developing a transportation element, please see the [Transportation Resource Guide](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/land/resourceguide.htm) found on the WisDOT website.

(URL address: <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/land/resourceguide.htm>)

Overall Issues:

1. Does the plan meet statutory requirements of the transportation element in s. 66.1001(2)(c), Wis. Stats.?
2. Is a 20-year planning period adequately addressed for transportation?
3. Does the transportation element reflect the plan's economic growth plans and proposed land uses?
4. Are implementation efforts discussed in the transportation element or elsewhere in the plan?
5. Is a capital improvements program discussed for local road improvements?
6. Does the transportation element cover all modes of transportation relevant to the community?
7. Has coordination been conducted on land use and transportation issues between neighboring communities, counties, RPC, MPO, and WisDOT? Is this coordination outlined in the plan?
8. Are forms of development discussed in relation to transportation needs/issues, such as conservation subdivision "cluster" designs and traditional neighborhoods developments?
9. Does the plan include steps or procedures to assess the impacts of development proposals on transportation such as Traffic/Transportation Impact Analyses (TIAs)?
10. Are the following issues addressed in the transportation element?
 - *Connection to other elements such as: land use, economic development, Natural Resources, Agriculture, etc.*
 - *Planned State highway transportation projects—especially from six-year program and majors vs. locally desired improvements.*
 - *Coordination with WisDOT, MPO, RPC, County and neighboring local governments.*
 - *Community character, aesthetics, and design issues (Context/Community Sensitive Designs).*
 - *Capital improvement program.*

Incorporating state and regional transportation plans:

1. Is this community part of a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)? If so, did the community incorporate the MPO plans (i.e. MPO Land Use and Transportation Plan)?
2. Did the community incorporate state/regional transportation plans? Such as:
 - *Corridors 2020*
 - *Modal Plans: State highway plan, bicycle plan, and pedestrian policy plan, airport system plan, rail plan etc. (and eventually Connections 2030, state transportation long range plan)*
 - *Current county highway and local jurisdictional plans*
 - *Regional or county bike plans*
 - *Corridor Plans*
 - *Access management plans*
 - *Transportation project plans: STH six year program, majors program*
3. If inconsistencies are evident between state/regional plans and the local plan, have the inconsistencies and a plan for follow-up actions been addressed? Have DOT staff been contacted to discuss these inconsistencies?

4. Are there any existing highway corridor plans that the community participated in? Were these corridor plans incorporated into the comprehensive plan?
5. If there are differences/inconsistencies between the corridor plan and local plan, how were these issues addressed? Is there an implementation strategy to resolve current and future conflicts?

Multimodal Issues

1. Does the plan review all forms of transportation including transit, air, harbors, rail, paratransit, bicycle, pedestrian, air as required by the statutes?
2. Are the community's needs and goals for multimodal transportation discussed?
3. If limited discussion is given on a particular mode, does the plan explain why?
4. Does the community have an airport within its boundaries or within a 3-mile radius? Have land use compatibility issues been identified within that radius?
5. Does the plan consider relevant effects of various modal decisions, such as adequate transit service for aging populations in the future?

State Trunk Highway (STH) Projects

1. Are there any WisDOT transportation projects, such as a STH improvement project, ongoing or anticipated within the community or impacting the community?
2. Does the plan incorporate the STH project? If there is a planned STH project, are the community's plans for its transportation system consistent with each other? If not, what is inconsistent?
3. Does the transportation element identify projects on STHs that are not planned by the state? Has this been discussed with WisDOT district staff?

Access management issues

1. Are there access concerns along state highways? Have these concerns been discussed with WisDOT district staff?
2. Is land use adjacent to or near state highways addressed in the land use element? Are the proposed land uses compatible with the highway safety and mobility needs?
3. Does the plan include future access points along state highways? Have the locations been discussed with WisDOT district staff?
4. Does the plan address access spacing, strategic median breaks, pedestrian safety, shared driveways for multiple land uses, or other management techniques?

Local roads:

1. Does the future local road network meet the existing and future level of growth and development proposed in the plan?
2. Is there logical connectivity planned between existing and new local roads to minimize short trips on the state highways?
3. Are the existing road conditions such as pavement and safety issues identified?
4. Has a capital improvement program been developed to implement local road improvements?
5. Does the plan address local bridge needs?
6. Does the plan address rail/highway crossing safety concerns?
7. Does the plan address the need to maintain a basic local grid system across higher type transportation facilities (like freeways or high speed rail)?
8. Does the plan include a provision to require an assessment of any significant development proposal's impacts on the local road system?

Visit the Wisconsin Department of Transportation [Transportation and Land Use](http://www.dot.state.wi.us/localgov/land/index.htm) website for additional comprehensive planning information, district contacts, and other data and resources. (URL address: www.dot.state.wi.us/localgov/land/index.htm)

Wisconsin Department of Transportation Contacts

Covering all local governments within each of the following counties:

District 1: Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Grant, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Lafayette, Rock and Sauk

Barb Feeney phone: 608.246.3869 email: barbara.feeney@dot.state.wi.us
Marshall Quade phone: 608.243.3366 email: marshall.quade@dot.state.wi.us

District 2: Fond du Lac, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Washington and Waukesha

Bob Anderson phone: 262.548.5945 email: robert.anderson1@dot.state.wi.us
Aileen Switzer phone: 262.548.8767 email: aileen.switzer@dot.state.wi.us

District 3: Brown, Calumet, Door, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, Outagamie, Shawano, Sheboygan and Winnebago

Jenny Cavanaugh phone: 920.492.5986 email: jeanette.cavanaugh@dot.state.wi.us
Chris Culotta phone: 920.492.7712 email: christopher.culotta@dot.state.wi.us
Colleen Harris phone: 920.492.5678 email: colleen.harris@dot.state.wi.us

District 4: Adams, Green Lake, Juneau, Marathon, Marquette, Portage, Waupaca, Waushara and Wood

Matt Halada phone: 715.421.8348 email: matthew.halada@dot.state.wi.us
Bob Wagner phone: 715.421.8053 email: robert.wagner1@dot.state.wi.us

District 5: Buffalo, Crawford, Jackson, La Crosse, Monroe, Richland, Trempealeau and Vernon

Beth Price phone: 608.785.9045 email: beth.price@dot.state.wi.us
Dale Oestreich phone: 608.785.9966 email: dale.oestreich@dot.state.wi.us

District 6: Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire, Pepin, Pierce, St. Croix and Taylor

Jeff Abboud phone: 715.855.7661 email: jeffry.abboud@dot.state.wi.us
Mark Ploederer phone: 715.836.2978 email: mark.ploederer@dot.state.wi.us

District 7: Florence, Forest, Iron, Langlade, Lincoln, Oneida, Price and Vilas

Rob Severson phone: 715.365.5797 email: robert.severson@dot.state.wi.us
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District 8: Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Polk, Rusk, Sawyer and Washburn

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Statewide Contact

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